From: Financial Times Briefing <FT@emailbriefings.ft.com>
To: ehbarak1@gmail.com
CC:
Date: Mon, 8/11/2014 8:32:31 AM
Subject: In today's FT: Erdogan takes Turkishpresidency, RBS Libor probe to...

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Monday August 11 2014

UK HOMEPAGE

Erdogan takes Turkish presidency

Prime minister wins first direct poll on first round in a triumph for his bid to bolster his powers and change the country's system of government

RBS Libor probe to drag on to next year

SFO weighs bringing criminal charges against individuals as government-controlled lender seeks to put scandals behind it

Hopes rise for long-term truce in Gaza

Palestinian negotiators said they are ready to accept an Egyptian proposal meant to revive talks on long-term ceasefire that would end war in Gaza Strip

VIDEO

Macau casinos on a losing streak

Macau's casino stocks are on a losing streak, down 3 per cent two months in a row despite a rising number of tourists. Lex's Joseph Cotterill and Lucy Colback discuss whether this is a small speed bump or the start of a longer-term slowdown.

US HOMEPAGE

US struggles to mark start of Great War

First world war centennial committeeis starts multi-year, multimedia campaign aimed at showing how the Great War shaped the US of today

Kinder in $44bn deal to buy out investors

The move to simplify the company's sprawling corporate structure comes amid investor excitement over the prospects for US energy production

Clinton takes swipe at Obama over Syria

Failure to help build credible fighting force among protesters against Syrian regime had left 'a big vacuum', which the jihadists had filled, she said

EUROPE HOMEPAGE

Renzi defends Italy's pace of reform

Thirty-nine-year old former mayor of Florence wants greater freedom to use EU development funds without adding to the deficit

Asia stocks climb as nerves settle

Equiteis advance as geopolitical tensions ease but sharp gains fail to compensate for last week's sell-off and sense of risk aversion prevails

Ukrainian army edges closer to Donetsk

The newly appointed head of rebels in Donetsk has ruled out negotiations for a ceasefire as government continued its advance on the city

ASIA HOMEPAGE

China kicks off new round of privatisation

Selling stakes in locally owned public businesses will help local governments pay down more than $2.9tn in debt, equivalent to 58% of GDP

Blackstone eyes $1bn Shell gas stake deal

Private equity group is set to acquire Shell's stake in the Haynesville Shale formation as the energy company retreats from souring US investments

Baker & McKenzie becomes world's biggest law firm

An uptick in mergers and acquisitions has helped it overtake rival DLA Piper with $2.5bn in 2013 revenue

WORLD NEWS

Maliki to take battle for premiership to court

The prime minister is opposed by Kurds, Sunni and many other Shia but has insisted on retaining the right to make a first attempt at forming a government

Renzi takes rapier to bureaucracy

At the end of a week in which Italy returned to recession and the ECB president implied Italy needed more reform, the former mayor of Florence comes out fighting

Crisis deepens for ex-Catalan leader Pujol

Spain's tax authorities have requested information from the former leader president of Catalonia as the crisis surrounding the elderly politician deepens

Guinea shuts borders in bid to halt Ebola

While Guinea's official land border crossings with Sierra Leone and Liberia will shut it will be difficult to prevent people in rural areas crossing

China downplays South China Sea tension

At Asean conference Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi says 'someone has been exaggerating or even playing up the so-called tension in the South China Sea'

COMPANIES NEWS

Disney hurdle for Amazon shoppers

The entertainment company appears to have joined the growing list of suppliers in contract disputes with the US ecommerce group

Jordanian lender faces Hamas funding claims in NY trial

Arab Bank is pitted against the families and victims of attacks allegedly carried out by Hamas between 2001 and 2004

India's e-retailers gear up for turf war

Flipkart, Amazon and Snapdeal are vying for position in an industry that analysts say is poised to boom

Brevan Howard battles co-founder's plans

Christopher Rokos, a founding partner of the publicity-shy hedge fund, seeks to overturn a five-year, non-compete clause before launching his own hedge fund

S African rescue plan will split Abil

Country's biggest lender of unsecured loans will receive capital injection of $938m from the central bank

MARKETS

Tunisia and Pakistan join the sukuk rush

Wave of sharia-compliant state bond issues planned. Global sukuk issuance reached $66bn in the first half of 2014, up 8% on the previous year

High-speed traders flee investment banks

Move to specialised trading firms comes amid regulatory crackdown on proprietary trading and curbs on bonus payments

COMMENT

How to end the Ukraine crisis in peace

The way out, if there is one, will be found not through force but through the despised arts of diplomacy

Facebook invades your personality

The social media company does not yet have the power to make us happy or sad but they will not hesitate to try and do so if it helps their earnings

Bold Democrats invert Obama's mentality

The more combative alternative to the president's instinctive approach has a face, and a powerful voice, in the Massachusetts senator

Second-term presidents lost US 40 years

Leaders nearing the end of their time in office lose the ability to influence other actors by offering future rewards

'Factory Man' by Beth Macy

When Chinese competition threatened to put a manufacturing industry out of business, one man refused to accept defeat

MANAGEMENT

Tos Chirathivat, Central Group

The conglomerate boss remains diplomatic about Thailand's political turbulence, reflecting the group's experience of the country's traditional business world

The movie playing in your colleague's head

A cinematic imagination might help people advance their careers, but as you navigate a story arc from setbacks to success, you need a supporting cast

Airbnb and Uber for a business trip

Employers increasingly view unconventional services such as Uber and Airbnb as viable alternatives in their corporate travel mix

Nepotism knock-back

Readers clearly recognised Lisa Pollack's problem and commented on dealing with colleague's work experience requests

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